

# City Council Brown Bag Forum Transit Oriented Development That's Healthy, Green & Just June 27, 2012

#### **Speaker Biographies**

#### Steve Bury, Executive Director, Urban Impact

Steve is the Executive Director of Urban Impact, a Christian community development organization with a mission to break the cycle of social, material, and spiritual poverty in urban neighborhoods. He has been working in community development and youth outreach for over 25 years and has a commitment and calling to develop emerging leaders and effective urban ministry efforts. Urban Impact's programs focus in the areas of health, education, youth development, family engagement and economic development. Steve's heart is the development of dynamic multi-ethnic community focused ministries that create Godly, lifelong disciples and urban leaders. He is an ordained minister with a Bachelor's in Sociology from George Fox University. He has also worked for Reachout Expeditions, Youth For Christ/Campus Life, Seattle's Union Gospel Mission, World Vision/Vision Youth and Emerald City Outreach Ministries.

## Howard Greenwich, Research & Policy Director, Puget Sound Sage

Howard has over 15 years in local planning, government finance and public policy experience. Prior to joining Sage in 2007, he was research director for the East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy (EBASE) in Oakland for eight years. From 1992 to 1997, Howard led the research efforts of the Neighborhood Capitol Budget Group in Chicago. Howard has a Masters Degree in Public Policy from University of California at Berkeley.

## Shefali Ranganathan, Director of Programs, Transportation Choices Coalition

A self-described transportation geek, Shefali is passionate about helping Seattle become more transit, bike and pedestrian friendly. At Transportation Choices Coalition, she leads the education and outreach program that provides tools and information to residents about transportation alternatives. The program also helps nurture citizen advocacy on transportation issues so that the public voice is heard. Most recently, Shefali has focused much of her work on transportation equity working with a broad coalition of social justice, affordable housing, health and faith organizations to help create a transportation system that is fair, provides access, and creates opportunity for all Washingtonians. She has served as a member of the City's Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee to help guide transportation investments and planning in Seattle.

## Rebecca Saldaña, Community Benefits & Development Program Director, Puget Sound Sage

Rebecca brings over 12 years of community organizing and coalition building for economic and social change. From 2006-2011 she served as Congressman Jim McDermott's community liaison with the Labor, Housing, LGBTQ, Latino, and Environmental communities. Previously, she worked as an organizer with the SEIU Local 6, the United Farm Workers, and Oregon's farmworker union, PCUN.

#### Michael Woo, Director, Got Green

Michael – the director of Got Green – is well known for building multi-racial partnerships and mobilizing communities. His community organizing dates back to 1970 when he joined the staff of the United Construction Workers Association and fought for the racial integration of Seattle's unionized construction industry. He served as Executive Director of LELO – Legacy of Equality Leadership & Organizing – in Seattle through 2006 reframing civil rights to promote human rights. In 2008 – after hearing a speech by Van Jones – Michael launched a project to bring young people of color together to explore green job opportunities. Got Green went on to launch Washington State's first union training program in home weatherization with Laborers Union and is organizing to insure Seattle's low income communities of color benefit from a "green economy" – access to quality food, green jobs, healthy and energy efficient homes, and quality public transportation.